Seminar on Empowering the Socially and Economically Marginalised Groups

*327 SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be aleased to state:

(a) whether any Seminar on Empowering the socially and economically marginalised Groups was organised at New Delhi recently?

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether during the Seminar, industrialists and industrial houses were requested to recruit Muslims, minortie Dalits, Tribals and women without any discrimination;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to get the suggestions as in part (c) above implemented early; and

(0 if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organised a half-day seminar on Empowering the Socially and Economically Marginalised Groups on 3rd July, 1995 at New Delhi. The Union Minister for Welfare inaugurated the Seminer. The welcome and theme address was presented by Shri A.K. Rungta, President, FICCI. Ms. Mira Seth, Member, Planning Commission, delivered the keynote address.

The panel of speakers comprised Dr. R.K. Nayak Secretary (Rural Areas and Employment), Ministry of Rural Development, Dr.(Mrs.) Sarala Gopalan, Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Humen Resources Development, Shri S.K. Basu, Secretary, National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Shri M. Varadarajan, Member, National Commission for Minorities. The deliberations focussed on empowering the deprived sections of the society by promoting education training and' employment opportunities and the role corporate sector could play in the process.

(c) to (f) The Union Minister for Welfare in his sreech in the Seminar, *inter alia,* urged the industry to empower the Muslims, Minorities, Dalits, Tribals and other Backard Classes (OBCs) by employing them in their business organisations.

Proposal by Sail to Produce Special Quality Steel

*328. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have any proposal to produce special quality steel keeping in view the changing market scenario;

(b) if so, the instructions given to different steel plants in the matter;

(c) the plan drawn up and the steps taken by different steel plants in that direction for 8th plan and 9th plan; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) In its integrated steel plants, Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) is already producing special quality steel such as Boiler Quality plates, LPG Sheets, GRNO Electrical Sheets, auto body sheets etc. The production of such items is proposed to be raised in view of the changing market requirement.

Certain value added production have been identified for development by each plant keeping in view their technological capability, the market requirements etc. The plants are being modernised and technologically upgraded, which will equip them to produce higher proportion of special quality steels. The development of some of these products involves inter plant co-operation with active involvement of experts from the Research and Development Centre for Iron and Steel of SAIL.

Urban Transport Consortium Fund

*329. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM
CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposed target of providing funds for the Urban Transport Consortium Fund have not been fulfilled in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what is the proposed target and the actual allocation therefor; and